



Serving

Bay Ho

Bay Park

Birdland

De Anza

Clairemont

Kearny Mesa

Linda Vista

Mission Valley

Mission Bay Park

Mission Village

Morena

Serra Mesa

Councilmember Frye's Recent Editorial

Councilmember Frye's recent editorial in the *Voice of San Diego* hit a responsive note with readers throughout the City. It is reprinted here in case you did not see it in the *Voice*.

An Open-Minded Government

It is hard for the public to believe that the minds of their elected officials are open when their bodies are not even present.

Tuesday, July 25, 2006

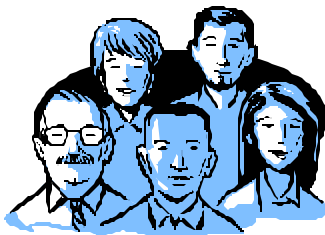
I remember back in the mid-1990s when I began attending the San Diego City Council meetings as a member of the public. At first it was a nerve racking experience because it usually began with the long wait for my docket item to be called, followed by what felt like a long walk to the podium to give my three minutes of testimony, and finally the long wait to see how the vote came out.

As I became more accustomed to what I soon dubbed "going through the drill," I realized that many of the city councilmembers were not paying much, if any, attention to my testimony. Some of them left their seats for long periods, which led me to suspect that my testimony wasn't really being heard, and that possibly the minds of the decision makers had been made up long before I showed up to speak.

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Changes to Community Planning Group Agendas

In an effort to reduce costs, the City of San Diego has discontinued the distribution of planning group agendas through U.S. mail. Beginning in July, community group agendas are posted on the City's website, and this website will be the main source for viewing agendas in the future.



To access agendas online, please visit:

www.sandiego.gov/planning

If you would like to receive agendas electronically, please send an email to the following address, making sure to indicate which community group agenda you are interested in receiving:

sdplanninggroups@sandiego.gov

The Planning Department is working to have agendas posted on City TV (channel 24) and posting agendas at local branch libraries. Councilmember Frye's office will provide updates as the Planning Department continues to modify this distribution method to meet the needs of community members.

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This seemed rude to me, and I thought that the councilmembers should, at the very least, stay in their seats, if for no other reason than common courtesy. I

believed then and still do now, that it was their job to listen to the public and make a decision after the public had spoken, not before. (The Ralph M.

Brown Act forbids elected officials from reaching a collective decision on a matter before holding a public hearing.)



After being elected in 2001, I made it a point to remember my experiences as a member of the public and I set about to change the system. To some extent, and with the help of my colleagues, the city of San Diego has reformed many of its open government laws.

In 2004, Councilmember Toni Atkins and I boycotted closed session meetings because we felt that they were not in conformance with state open government laws. We pushed numerous reforms including the requirement that detailed descriptions of all closed session items be provided to the public, and that the public be provided the opportunity to speak on all closed session items. The ultimate goal was to ensure that closed sessions were the exception to the open meeting requirements, not the rule. Although not required by law, we also added a provision that requires all closed session meetings to be transcribed.

Additionally, we established a "Right to Know" committee. Our work resulted in a November 2004 open government ballot measure, which voters approved by over 80 percent. This measure changed the City Charter by making it easier for the public to obtain government documents. The burden is now properly shifted from the public to the government to show there is a real and legitimate need for secrecy before any requested public information is withheld.

Although the city has been moving in the right di-

rection in making government more open and accessible to its citizens, there is always room for improvement. The intent of our state open government law, the Brown Act, is to ensure the accountability of government officials and to enable citizens' oversight of government by keeping decision-making processes as open as possible to public knowledge and participation. The city often fails to meet the spirit of this requirement.

For example, it is common for the City Council to receive important documents very late on Friday afternoon on items we are expected to vote on the following Monday. This makes it almost impossible for the public to participate in a meaningful way. Additionally, it affects the City Council's ability to make an informed decision. If information is not provided in a timely manner, the item should not be docketed. At a minimum, this late information should be available to the public online.

Open government requires common courtesy and an open mind. Therefore, it is reasonable for the public to expect that elected officials will observe the most basic elements of good government by not only attending the meetings, but also staying in their seats until the end of the meeting. Otherwise, it is hard for the public to believe that the minds of their elected officials are open when their bodies are not even present.

*To read the article on the web, visit:
voiceofsandiego.org*

Mission Valley Unified Planning Committee

Change of Meeting Date — August Only!

Due to vacation schedules of board and community members, the Mission Valley Unified Planning Committee's August 2nd meeting has been rescheduled to August 9, 2006, at noon in the Mission Valley Library's Community Room. Councilmember Frye will also be in attendance. Please note that this scheduling change is for August only and the group will continue to meet at its regularly scheduled date and time beginning in September. For more information, please contact Clare Chavez at (619) 400-0133 or email Clare at cchavez@hgfenton.com.



Library Website Change

The Library has a new web address:
www.sandiegolibrary.org

The new address is easier to remember and simpler to use than the previous one. The public can perform a variety of tasks and functions on the library's new website, including:

- Searching the library catalog of 3 million books and other items
- Reserving books, CDs, videos and other materials with email notification when they're ready
- Reviewing library accounts
- Renewing library materials
- Searching 70 online databases on a large variety of topics
- Signing up for the free monthly *Library Connection* newsletter with information about upcoming events
- Downloading a library card application, and
- Searching for upcoming activities, programs and exhibits on the Calendar of Events.

The website is also a wealth of information about services and programs, library locations and operating hours, details about contributions and volunteering, assistance for people with disabilities, special announcements, new library construction and much more!

Save the Date: Serra Mesa Street Fair!

The Serra Mesa Street Fair will be held on September 9, 2006 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm at Sandrock Street and Greyling Drive.

The "Celebrating Diversity" theme will be incorporated through a number of fun activities and foods. There will also be information about the upcoming opening for the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library on October 28th!

Don't forget to mark your calendars!



New Computer Recycling Program



Goodwill Industries of San Diego County and Dell, Inc. have partnered to create a pilot computer recycling program, RECONNECT San Diego.

RECONNECT San Diego offers consumers the convenience of 24 permanent drop-off locations and the opportunity to support Goodwill Industries of San Diego County, a local non-profit organization that provides job training to people with barriers to employment, to enable them to be successful in the competitive marketplace. The program accepts all computer related equipment, working or not, and any brand or manufacturer, including custom units. The program goal is to keep at least two million pounds of used computer equipment from local landfills over one year and to educate residents about the importance of proper computer disposal.



While safe to use, computers contain some environmentally sensitive materials which can only be safely removed or recycled by trained professionals. With this program, Goodwill will accept, disassemble and sort the donated computer equipment and Dell will responsibly recycle the materials through the Dell Asset Recovery Services value recovery program.

County residents can take unwanted computer equipment directly to any Goodwill location in San Diego County during normal business hours, seven days a week, for no charge. Please be advised that customers are responsible for removing data from their hard drives and neither Goodwill nor Dell are liable for data removal or protection.

Goodwill will provide a tax receipt at the time of donation as well, and donors are encouraged to check with their tax advisors to see if they are eligible to deduct the value of the computer for tax purposes.

For more information or to find drop-off location at Goodwill donation centers and retail stores in San Diego County, please call 1-866-REUSE or visit www.reconnectpartnership.com. You may also contact Goodwill directly at 1-888-4-GOODWILL or visit their website at www.sdgoodwill.org to find the closest drop off points.

Fiesta Island General Development Plan Public Workshop

The City of San Diego is refining the previously adopted Master Plan and is creating a General Development Plan specifically for Fiesta Island. A public workshop will be held to find how city residents use Fiesta Island, what they would like to do there in the future and how new and used facilities should be prioritized. Residents may drop by any time and stay as long as they like.

The workshop will be held on Wednesday, August 16, 2006 from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm, at the Mission Valley Library's Large Conference Room. The library is located at 2123 Fenton Parkway.

For more information, please contact Paul Jacob at (619) 235-5242 or email Jacob at PJacob@sandiego.gov.



2006 Clairemont Family



Councilmember Frye congratulated Nita Kay who, with her husband Ian, are the winners of the K-Co Senior Home Repair Contest.

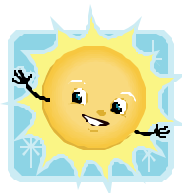


Councilmember Frye and her staff shared their Saturday with hundreds of residents from Clairemont and neighboring communities to celebrate this year's Clairemont Family Day theme, "Take Pride in the Community."

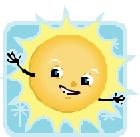
The day was kicked off with the wonderful Kiwanis's pancake breakfast. There were also booths, music, dancing and other events throughout the day. Councilmember Frye was joined by Park and Recreation Department Director Ted Medina, Customer and Neighborhood Services Director Ted Martinez, and Master of Ceremonies John McDer-



Councilmember Frye took advantage of the shade while perusing some beanie babies and meeting local vendors (left).



Even our four-legged friends joined in the fun. Councilmember Frye couldn't help hanging out with this cute Clairemont puppy (right).



Councilmember Frye with Peggy Maloney after declaring July 29, 2006 as "Peggy Maloney Day" in the City of San Diego, for all her hard work in the Clairemont community. Thanks Peggy!



Day Was A Success!



mott, to honor Peggy Maloney with a City Council proclamation, recognizing all of her contributions over the years to the residents of Clairemont. Peggy is a prime example of someone who takes pride in her community and her city and her efforts are greatly appreciated by Councilmember Frye.

Councilmember Frye also introduced community volunteer David Konstantin's music group, the 145th Street Blues Band. Councilmember Frye would like to thank the Clairemont Family Day Committee and Park & Recreation staff for all of their hard work and support to make this year's Family Day a huge success. We'll see you next year!



Councilmember Frye met some young Clairemont entrepreneurs and their mom.



Clairemont Representative Keith Corry and Serra Mesa Representative Kristin Camper-Wozniak, answered questions and handed out giveaways at the Councilmember's booth.



Councilmember Frye welcomed fair-goers and then joined the 145th Street Blues Band for a song as an honorary tambourine player.



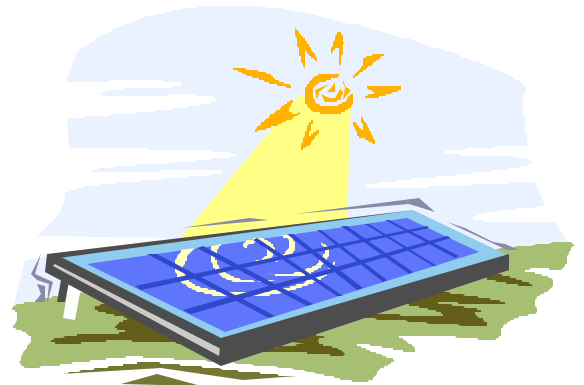
Councilmember Frye thanks all the participants of this year's fair, and was happy to see so many families celebrate their wonderful community by coming together and joining in the festivities!



San Diego #1 In Green Energy Use

On July 13th, Councilmember Frye and Mayor Sanders celebrated the City's ranking as the top local government in the nation using electricity generated by environmentally green methods at the Pt. Loma Wastewater Plant Facility. "This is an exciting day for the City of San Diego and some rare good news for a clean environment and the City's bottom line," said Councilmember Frye.

The quest for energy independence began after the 2001 energy crisis. That year, the City established the energy conservation division and in 2002, Councilmember Frye successfully led the City to adopt a goal to generate 50 megawatts of new renewable energy by 2012. At about the same time, Pt. Loma's hydropower plant was retrofitted to more efficiently convert treated wastewater being piped to the ocean into energy. The City's wastewater department has saved approximately \$16 million in the past three years, by generating its own green energy instead of buying it from San Diego Gas & Electric! The City also generates power from methane captured at Pt. Loma, the North City Water Reclamation Plant and the Miramar Landfill.



The City's use of "green power" prevents 91 million pounds of carbon dioxide from being emitted into the atmosphere annually. The greenhouse gas, which scientists link to global warming, is produced during the burning of fossil fuels like coal.

Since 2003, the Environmental Protection Agency has ranked San Diego as one of its top 25 "green power" partners nationwide. This broad list includes businesses, universities, military branches and federal agencies. San Diego uses about 65,400 megawatt hours of "green power" per year; all of it produced at city-owned facilities. That is about a quarter of the City government's overall power and enough energy to power approximately 7,500 homes annually. In the next seven years, the City aims to increase its "green power" usage by approximately 50 percent.

The main focus of newly generated green energy in the City will be solar. Currently, the City requires all new city buildings be equipped with solar panels, and expedites development projects that install solar components. For instance, solar panels are currently being installed at the Alvarado Treatment Plant at Lake Murray, a City of San Diego treatment facility. In addition, the City plans to start using the bio-gas from two closed landfills for power generation in early 2007.

To finance future projects, the City is seeking state grants and loans. It has also started contracting with private companies to install and pay for solar equipment. The City can then buy electricity at below-market rates from its partner companies.

Councilmember Frye stated that the public should count on increased use of green energy. "We haven't peaked," she says, "we are just getting started."

For more information on the City's green use, visit the Environmental Services Department website at <http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/>.

August Mission Valley Library Events

The Mission Valley Branch Library invites you to a number of free book club and story time events.

Adult Book Club

Monday, August 21, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

The Book Club will be discussing WLT: A Radio Romance by Garrison Keillor. New members are always welcome! Please read the book beforehand. Copies are available at the Circulation Desk while supplies last.

Summer Reading Program

June 15 - August 15

Children (toddlers through teens) who read 10 books will be rewarded with a prize.

Sand Skippers - Jump Rope Team

August 3rd, 10:30 am

Come watch the synchronized jump roping skills of these amazing performers!

Sky Hunters - Birds of Prey Program

August 10, 10:30 am

Enjoy a wildlife presentation with live birds of prey!

Final Summer Reading Celebration

August 17th, 10:30 am

It's time for Summer Reading Club participants to celebrate! Cookies will be provided by Hometown Buffet, accompanied by their Bumblebee Mascot! There will also be a raffle and prizes.

For more information, call Youth Services Librarian, Terry Fox, at (619) 573-5007.



Important Phone Numbers

Abandoned Vehicles	858 495-7856
Animal Regulation	619-236-4250
Beach & Bay Advisory	619-338-2073
Birth and Death Records	619-237-0502
Brush Abatement	619-533-4444
Building Permits	619-446-5000
Buses/MTS Access	619-233-3004
Canyon Watchers Program	858 292-6484
City Council Docket Info	619-533-4000
City Directory	619-236-5555
Community Service Center	858 581-4111
Code Violations	619-236-5500
Curb Maintenance	619-527-7500
Dead Animal Removal	858 694-7000
Dog Licenses	619-767-2675
Fire Stations	619-533-4300
Graffiti	619-525-8522
Hazardous Materials Hotline	858 694-7000
Housing Commission	619-231-9400
Humane Society	619-299-7012
Libraries	
Balboa	858 573-1390
Clairemont	858 581-9935
Linda Vista	858 573-1399
North Clairemont	858 581-9931
Serra Mesa	858 573-1396
Litter Control	858 492-5010
Noise Regulation	619-236-5500
Office of Small Business	619-685-1390
Park and Recreation	619-525-8219
Parking Citations	619-236-7145
Police: Non-Emergency	619-531-2000
Pot Hole Hotline	619-527-7500
Recreation Centers	
Kearny Mesa	858 573-1387
Linda Vista	858 573-1392
North Clairemont	858 581-9926
Serra Mesa	858 573-1408
South Clairemont	858 581-9924
Tecolote	858 581-9930
Recycling Hotline	858 694-7000
Senior Citizens Services	619-236-6905
Serra Mesa Community Connection	858 565-2473
Sewer Repair/Spills	619-515-3525
Sidewalk Maintenance	619-527-7500
Stormwater Pollution Hotline	619-235-1000
Street Lights	619-527-7500
Street Sweeping	619-527-7500
Traffic Control	619-533-3126
Tree Maintenance	619-527-7500
Water Emergency	619-515-3525
Water Utilities	619-515-3500
Zoning Regulation Info	619-236-5555

District Six Community Meetings

Balboa Avenue Citizens Advisory Committee

Place: Clairemont Community Service Center,
4731 Clairemont Drive
When: 4th Wednesday/Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Clairemont Town Council

Place: Clairemont High School Cafeteria,
4150 Ute Drive
When: 1st Thursday/Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Clairemont Mesa Planning Committee

Place: Clairemont Friendship Senior Center,
4425 Bannock Ave.
When: 3rd Tuesday/Month
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Kearny Mesa Planning Group

Place: National University,
9388 Light Wave # 114
When: 3rd Wednesday/Month
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Linda Vista Civic Association

Place: Baha'i Center
6545 Alcala Knolls Drive
When: 3rd Thursday/Month
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Linda Vista Planning Group

Place: Linda Vista Library,
2160 Ulric Street
When: 4th Monday/Month
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Mission Bay Park Committee

Place: Rotating Venue
When: 1st Tuesday/Month
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Mission Valley Community Council

Place: Mission Valley Library,
2123 Fenton Parkway
When: 3rd Wednesday/Odd Months
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Mission Valley Unified Planning Committee

Place: Mission Valley Library,
2123 Fenton Parkway
When: 1st Wednesday/Month
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Community Council

Place: ARC, 9575 Aero Drive
When: 4th Wednesday/Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Planning Group

Place: Taft Junior High School,
9191 Gramercy Dr.
When: 3rd Thursday/Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.



Councilmember Donna Frye
City Administration Building
202 C Street, MS 10A
San Diego, CA 92101

FRYE LIGHTS: CELEBRATING THE DISTRICT SIX SPIRIT



The District Six Staff:

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Chief of Staff

Lisa Gonzalez
Senior Policy Analyst

Kevin Smith
Senior Policy Advisor

Mary Ann Kempczenski
Keith Corry
Pari Sanati-Zaker
Kristin Camper-Wozniak
Council Representatives

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Nicole Capretz
NR&C Committee Consultant

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